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Agenda item 3
Basic programme of work of the Council

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (New York, 8 August 1975)

Proposal of amendments by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e)

Note by the Secretary-General

In its decision 2009/250 of 30 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General (E/2009/78) on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[1] decided, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention as amended, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article, which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Economic and Social Council any comments on the proposal.

The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the text of Council decision 2009/250 in a Depositary Notification[2] dated 30 July 2009.

The Secretary-General is hereby communicating to the Council a note verbale dated 28 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations (see annex).

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[2] C.N.474.2009.TREATIES-3.

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Annex

Note verbale dated 28 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to refer (a) to the Secretary-General's Depositary Notification dated 6 April 2009 (C.N.194.2009.TREATIES-2), which communicated a proposal of amendments by Bolivia to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 ("The Single Convention"); and (b) to the Secretary-General's Depositary Notification dated 30 July 2009 (C.N.474.2009.TREATIES-3), which informed the parties to the Single Convention of the decision of the Economic and Social Council to initiate the proceedings established under article 47, paragraph 1 (b), of the Single Convention with regard to the proposal.

Through ratification of the Single Convention, States parties undertake an obligation to limit the trade and use of narcotic drugs exclusively to medical and scientific purposes. States parties to the Single Convention also recognize that measures against the abuse of narcotic drugs require coordinated and universal action. Schedule I to the Single Convention lists coca leaf as a narcotic drug. Furthermore, in considering the proposal of amendments, States parties should remain guided by the object and the purpose of the Single Convention.

In the light of the above considerations, and in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1 (b), of the Single Convention, the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria hereby informs the Secretary-General that it does not accept the proposed amendments submitted by Bolivia.